

Legal Notice

On March 30, 2020 Golden Sunlight Mine, Inc. (GSM) submitted to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) an application to amend Operating Permit No. 00065. The Golden Sunlight Mine is located in Jefferson County approximately 5 miles northeast of Whitehall, MT in Sections 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32 and 33 of Township 2 North, Range 3 West, Section 4, 5 and 6 in Township 1 North, Range 3 West and Sections 13, 24, 25 and 36 in Township 2 North, Range 4 West.

The amendment would allow GSM to reprocess tailings recovered from Tailings Storage Facility 1 (TSF-1) over a period of approximately 12 years using conventional excavation, loading, and conveyance equipment. The 26.2 million tons of tailings at TSF-1 cover an area of approximately 190 acres.

Tailings would be recovered from TSF-1, then mixed with water to produce a slurry that would be pumped to the Flotation Plant in the existing Mill Building. The Flotation Plant would process approximately 6,400 tons per day of tailings. The Flotation Plant will allow recovery of residual gold values, reduce reactivity of the reprocessed tailings, and produce a sulfidic concentrate for market at a rate of approximately 455 tons per day.

GSM would use the Mineral Hill Pit as a repository for disposal of reprocessed tailings. For final reclamation, a growth media cover will be placed on the tailings surface and seeded to control dust and minimize infiltration of precipitation. Flotation tailings fill material in the Mineral Hill Pit will have a surface area of approximately 35 acres.

Implementation will not require a change in the approved water management system for the Mineral Hill Pit. Flotation tailings process solution combined with existing Mineral Hill Pit seepage and the bedrock aquifer will continue to be managed in accordance with the current approved system.

GSM would continue to maintain the cone-of-depression in the groundwater table surrounding the Mineral Hill Pit through use of the underground sump. The existing dewatering system will effectively control seepage water from the tailings, ultimately pumping the sump water to TSF-2.

Copies of the amendment application can be viewed at DEQ offices located at 1520 E. 6th Ave., in Helena, MT. The amendment application also will be posted on DEQ's web page (<http://deq.mt.gov/Land/hardrock>). For information on the proposed amendment, contact:

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